ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A document management system manages a plurality of registered documents in a database, each document having a number of sections. The document management system includes a document association object which links a reference-source document to a referenced-material document in the database. A management unit generates property data of the document association object, the property data including a first identifier indicating a section of the reference-source document and a second identifier indicating a section of the referenced-material document, wherein the property data is provided to recognize a particular relation that links the reference-source document section to the referenced-material document section.